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HOW MUCH SECRECY IS GOOD FOR U.S. INTELLIGENCE?

BY ADM. STANFIELD TURNER, U.S. NAVY, RETIRED; AND CAPT. GEORGE THIBAUT

"THE SECRET WORK OF INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES INHERENTLY CONFLICTS WITH THE IDEA OF OPENNESS; SUCH SECRECY CAN EASILY UNDERMINE INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS IN THE NAME OF PROTECTING THEM. CONSEQUENTLY, EVERY AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION HAS HAD TO SEEK A BALANCE BETWEEN SECRECY AND OPENNESS." SO WRITE ADM. STANFIELD TURNER, U.S. NAVY, RETIRED; AND DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION; AND CAPT. GEORGE THIBAUT, U.S. NAVY, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTOR FOR PRESIDENT CARTER. IN AN EXCERPT FROM THE FALL 1982 ISSUE OF FOREIGN POLICY MAGAZINE, THE AUTHORS EVALUATE PRESIDENT REAGAN'S CHANGES IN INTELLIGENCE POLICY AND CALL FOR A PERMANENT CHARTER FOR GOVERNMENT INTELLIGENCE, SO THAT THE RULES WON'T CHANGE WITH EACH ADMINISTRATION.